

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, July 1884, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. Manchester, Mass. Saturday, July 21, 1884? My dear Alec:

Too bad isn't it that I have not written to congratulate you on your success. I was very glad indeed, but I have been very busy and the time has flown by before I knew it. You must remember my dear little boy that I have your example always before me. To my numerous letters not one has come in answer. I knew it's awfully hard for you to write, but it would be nice for me to think that you cared enough for my sympathy to be able to scribble something!

We continue well here. Berta and Charlie are very nice, Charlie and I have gone into the photographic business together and enjoy it very much. Charlie's camera is very much larger than mine, and he had his chemicals prepared for him, so his pictures were better than mine, but the last two I have taken with Charlie's develop er have been very good. He prints his own photographs too, and I mean to do mine too. It's easy enough when you have the proper things, and I did not.

Maurice continues about the same, he has been under the influence of morphine the last two days and is very quiet and sleeps nearly all the time. Yesterday morning he knew very little, but in the afternoon he woke up and was quite bright and pleased to see Charlie for a few minutes. Poor Sister is nearly as thin as he is and bad to swallow some brandy and water the other day to keep herself from fainting.

I am growing very impatient to see you again, it seems more than nearly two weeks since you left and although it is very 2 nice to have a quiet and orderly and regular household

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yet somehow I miss the salt and flavor of my life without my white elephant, or rather black one!

Helen and Grace are as sweet and lovely as possible, I wish you could see them.

With a great deal of love, Your loving, Mabel.